

NEWS RELEASE



City of Cincinnati

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New OEQ Director Brings Experience, Passion to Position

City Manager Milton Dohoney has hired Lawrence Falkin as the new Director of the Office of Environmental Quality for the City of Cincinnati. As director of OEQ, Falkin is responsible for monitoring environmental conditions in the City of Cincinnati. One of his first assignments is overseeing the City's Energy Management Team, which studies the energy used by the City and makes recommendations on how to use energy more efficiently. The Energy Management Team is developing a plan that focuses on reducing utility and fuel usage, promoting conservation, and reducing energy costs. Falkin assumed his duties on Monday, July 2, 2007.

"Larry's distinguished career in the field of environmental quality serves as testimony to his dedication, passion and knowledge in this area," said City Manager Milton Dohoney, Jr. "The City of Cincinnati welcomes his expertise, which will help move the City's environmental efforts forward as we serve this community."

Falkin's career experience is extensive. He most recently worked with the Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department in Kansas where he served as the Deputy Director for Natural Resources. Leading 17 full-time and 18 seasonal employees, Falkin managed habitat enhancement and wildlife protection efforts in the 22,000-acre county park system. During his tenure, he spearheaded the county government's environmental stewardship efforts, including recycling, green purchasing, energy conservation and waste minimization among others. Falkin, who was responsible for the department's annual budget of approximately \$1 million, also led implementation of sustainable storm water strategies to improve habitat, reduce flooding, protect stream corridors, and reduce long-term costs.

From 1995 to 2006 Falkin worked as the Assistant Director of the City of Kansas City Environmental Management Department. As the Assistant Director, Falkin managed the City's spill response and site remediation activities, directed development and implementation of software to manage environmental and safety training needs, and provided staff support for the City's Environmental Management Commission. Also in that position, Falkin developed and implemented the Environmental Management System for the Kansas City government and assured environmental compliance and good environmental stewardship.

Falkin was the Hazardous Waste Enforcement Section Chief for the United States Environmental Protection Agency for three years and served another three years as EPA's Assistant Regional Counsel.

Falkin holds a Bachelor of Arts from the State University of New York at Binghamton and received his J.D. Cum Laude with Certificate in Environmental Law from Pace University School of Law.

Falkin was an avid volunteer with Kansas City Wildlands, Keep Kansas City Beautiful, Sierra Club, and the Blue River Rescue. From 2005 to 2007, Falkin was the Chair of the Environmental Excellence Business Network. This non-profit organization works to lead the Kansas City area business community toward environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

In addition to his law degree, Falkin is a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager for the Master Level 2000-2005 and a Certified Asbestos Inspector.

The OEQ director position has a salary of \$96,000.

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